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SAFFORD, ARIZONA

THE TALE-BEARER

She Told Because She Thought Her Victim Ought to Know It

By GENEVIEVE HOWE

"Mrs. Waters," said Mrs. Timberlake, "I have called to ask you such side you're going to take in reference to Mr. Perkins. Are you going to advocate his remaining the pastor of our church or our getting some one else?"

Mrs. Timberlake had not called for any such purpose. She had made up her mind to tell Mr. Perkins from his pulpit and had laid her plans to do so without Mrs. Waters' assistance. Mrs. Timberlake had a mania. She could not bear to see any one enjoying a comfortable position. This was supplemented by a special faculty for getting others out of comfortable positions, and it is an undisputed fact that persons are drawn to do what they do well.

Mrs. Waters had been recently married and was very happy with her husband in their own little home. This was not pleasing to Mrs. Timberlake, and she was seized with a desire to oust Mr. Waters from his wife's affections, though in justice to her it must be admitted that a certain sympathy for his wife was the first cause of her applying herself to the work. She had seen a man who resembled Mr. Waters entering the home of a married lady living opposite her own house at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Mrs. Timberlake was instantly seized with commiseration for Mrs. Waters. The tenderness of Mrs. Timberlake's heart welling up in her bosom, mingled with indignation against the recent husband, gave birth to an irrepressible desire.

"She ought to know it," she said to herself. "It's a shame that such a nice little woman as Bertha Waters should be so treated."

And thus it came about that Mrs. Timberlake's peculiar trait having been aroused and fortified by the tenderness of her heart and her sense of justice, she could not rest till she had imparted what she had seen to the injured wife. She would give Mrs. Waters some intimation of what she had seen the first time they met. But to restrain herself till then was like endeavoring to hold the lid on a caldron of boiling water. She determined that as soon as she had finished certain household work she would call on the injured woman and tell her what she ought to know. It occurred to her that she might make a pretext for calling of the work she had undertaken with reference to the minister. The result of all these noble impulses that guided Mrs. Timberlake was that within twenty minutes after she saw, or, rather, thought she saw, Fred Waters enter Mrs. Mainwaring's house she posted around to his home to inform his wife of the fact.

But to return to the meeting of the two ladies and the dialogue which was opened by Mrs. Timberlake asking Mrs. Waters which side she would take in the impending crisis in the church.

"I haven't been a member of the church long enough," replied Mrs. Waters, "to warrant my taking any part in the matter. Fred prefers that I shall keep out of all contentions."

"Very wise. Your husband has always had a reputation for being polite."

The word "polite" nettled Mrs. Waters. She understood it, when applied to social matters, to mean one who would draw out all the information possible without imparting any. However, she made no reply to the innuendo. "By the way," Mrs. Timberlake continued, "I was not aware that you knew the Mainwarings."

"I don't know any one of that name."

"Don't know that pretty Mrs. Mainwaring? Why, I supposed you were very intimate with her."

"What made you think that?"

"Your husband knows her, doesn't he?"

"Not that I am aware of."

"Oh!" Mrs. Timberlake made the exclamation as if she would retreat from delicate ground. She turned the subject by remarking that she thought it was colder and there would be snow. But Mrs. Waters did not propose to leave the matter of Mrs. Timberlake's allusion to her husband without an explanation.

She was not long in getting the simple statement that Mrs. Timberlake had seen the gentleman enter the lady's house in the middle of that very afternoon. As soon as she had imparted the information she added, with all the fervor of her compassionate soul: "I'm awfully sorry for you, Mrs. Waters. I wouldn't have told you, but I thought you ought to know it."

Having thus sympathized with the lady for having such a husband, Mrs. Timberlake took herself away, conscious of having done an admirable action.

When Fred Waters returned to his home in the evening, instead of finding his young wife ready to meet him with the marital kiss, the maid handed him a note addressed to him in Mrs. Waters' well known handwriting. It informed him that the writer had gone

to her mother, to remain until he could clear himself of a grave charge that had been made against him. His wife would not have listened to it had it been made in the nature of a charge; it had come out unintentionally as a bit of information. It was then given, after which the writer continued by saying that she did not see how he could possibly disprove the statement, since he was seen, not by some gossiping old maid, but by Mrs. Timberlake, the mother of grown children and a woman respected by all who knew her.

"Thank heaven!" muttered Waters. "For once the poor, gossiping old maid is not called upon to endure the responsibility of making trouble."

Mr. Waters, never having seen or heard of the Mrs. Mainwaring referred to, was only troubled that his wife had been made a dupe. It occurred to him that it might be well to forestall in future any such information given his wife. He had no respect for a tale-bearer, be the person man or woman, and did not propose to enter a defense against such a person to his own wife. He dined alone, telling the maid that his wife had gone to visit her mother and her return was uncertain. Then, lighting a cigar, he strolled away to his club.

Mrs. Waters, though she could not conceal from her mother that there was trouble on her mind, resolutely declined to tell why she had come. Her husband usually returned to his home about 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and an hour more would be required for a telegram denying the charge to reach her.

No telegram arrived within that time or double that time. Indeed, no message whatever arrived that night. Mrs. Waters, not having slept any, went downstairs in the morning expecting that the postman would bring her a letter. The postman's whistle and ring were heard, as usual, but no letter from Fred.

The trouble that had been brought about by the information "she ought to know" had increased and multiplied overnight. First, her husband, if innocent of the charge, would surely have denied it once. Surely he must be guilty. Then came fitful flashes of terror lest something had happened to him the night before and he had not reached home at all. Perhaps he had been run over by an automobile. Heavens! Could it be that he was lying mangled and bleeding in a hospital? If he had not been killed a telephone would have been sent to her at home. But she was not at home, and no one there knew where she was. The contingency, though remote, was appalling.

There are two powerful agents—the one silence, the other nonresistance. Both these seized upon Bertha Waters. Her scheme of withdrawing as a dignified wife should withdraw from a husband who had been proved unfaithful had been a failure. She could not stand this anxiety for another day or even another half day. She must return.

She arrived at home at midday. The first question she asked her maid was whether her husband had been at home and been given her note. Answered in the affirmative, she did not deem herself by asking how he had received the note, but she did ask whether he had slept at home. She was informed that he had, and the maid did not mention that he had looked especially gloomy or had been heard pacing the floor at midnight. On the whole, his wife could not discover that he had been especially moved. She began to dread facing him after what had occurred. She concluded to call him up by telephone at his office and hear what he had to say. This was the brief dialogue between them:

"Did you get my note?"

"Yes."

"I suppose since you have not denied that the information is true it is true."

"I'm not in the habit of denying the stories of talebearers, especially to my own wife."

"Do you call Mrs. Timberlake a tale-bearer because she has told me what she considered I ought to know?"

"I do."

"Is her story true or untrue?"

"I decline to answer."

"Why?"

"Because when she told you the story it was your duty to have asked her to leave your house."

There was no reply to this for some time, when Mrs. Waters asked if he would be home to dinner. He replied that he would, provided no mention would be made of Mrs. Timberlake or her story. After a slight hesitation the promise was given; there was a click, and Mrs. Waters, leaving the telephone, was obliged to content herself till 5 o'clock, when her husband would be home. She had made up her mind from his action that there was nothing in Mrs. Timberlake's story, and her anger began slowly to rise against that lady as a blood red sun climbs the eastern sky on the morning of a hot day.

The Waterses dined together somewhat coolly, and after dinner the husband voluntarily denied the charge that had been made against him. Before retiring Mrs. Waters called up Mrs. Timberlake on the phone.

"My husband informs me that he doesn't know any woman of the name of Mainwaring."

"Oh, he doesn't?" incredulously.

"No, he doesn't."

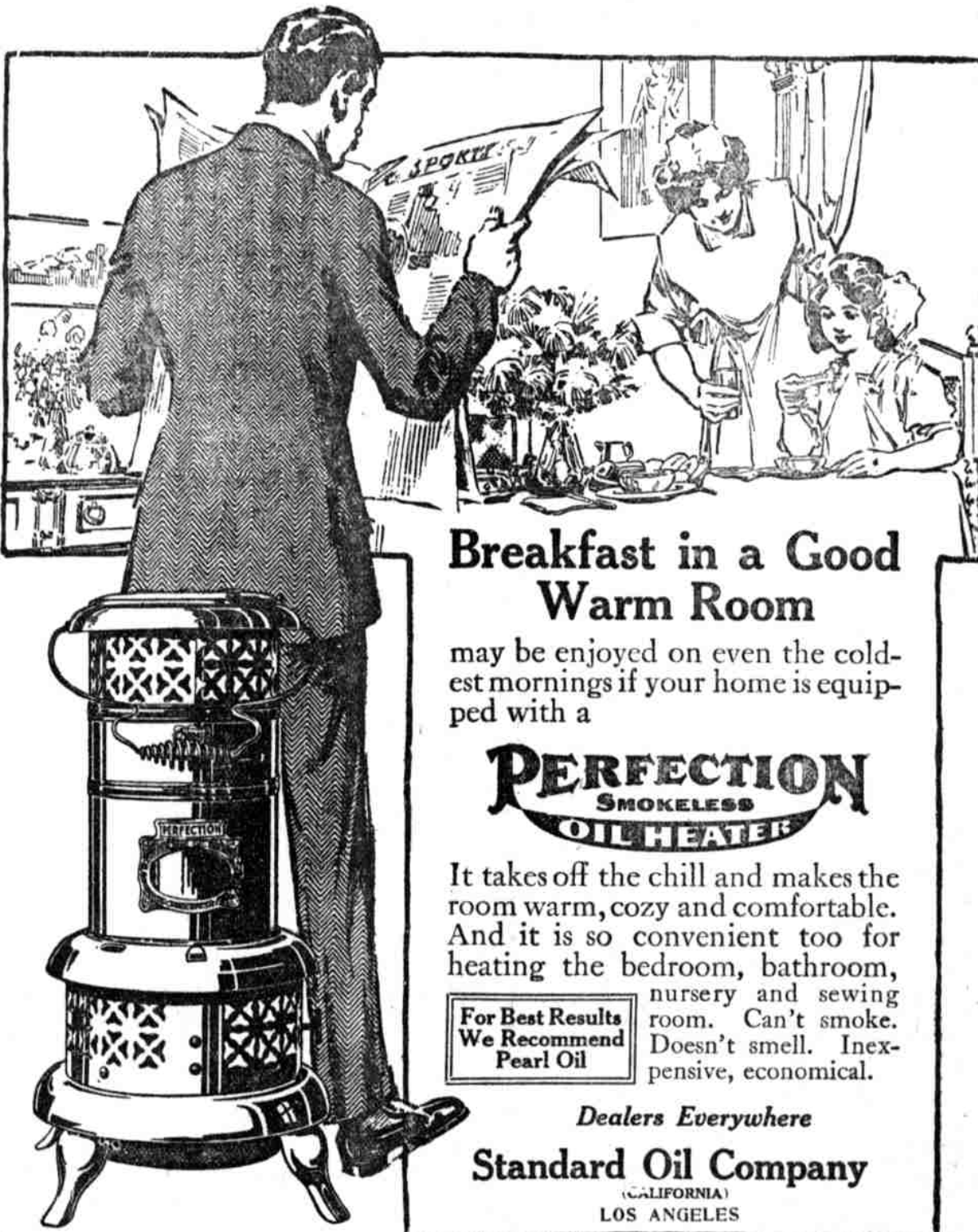
"I'm so glad there's nothing in it. Perhaps it was a mistake."

"I think it was."

"Goodbye."

"Goodbye."

Since then the Waterses and the Timberlakes do not speak as they pass by.



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Acreage for Pasturage in the National Forests is Doubled

The district forester has announced that the Secretary of Agriculture has recently extended the pasturage regulations. This information will prove of exceeding benefit to stockmen residing on or running stock within the national forests of Arizona and New Mexico.

Heretofore, stockmen on national forests have been able to secure permits for the fencing of land for exclusive pasturage purposes on the basis of 320 acres for the first 200 head of cattle or their equivalent, and an additional acre for each additional head. The acreage maximum has now been doubled for Arizona and New Mexico, whereby 320 acres of fenced pasturage can be secured for the first 100 head of cattle or their equivalent, and two acres additional for each additional head. It is stated by forest officials that this should meet the needs of the live stock interests, which require enclosures for the holding of saddle stock, the holding of beef stock before shipment, as weaning pastures, lambing pastures and for carrying month.

In exceptional cases, where an excessive amount of fenced enclosure is necessary to properly handle stock on national forests under permit, as for instance, the raising of thoroughbred cattle, as much as forty acres per head has been allowed by the Forest Service.

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Notice to Creditors

In the Superior Court of Graham County, State of Arizona.

In the matter of the estate of Laprelle McBride, deceased.

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned administrator of the estate of Laprelle McBride, deceased, to the creditors of, and all persons having claims against said deceased, to exhibit them, with the necessary vouchers, within four months after the first publication of this notice to the said administrator at the office of George H. Crosby, Jr., Safford, Arizona.

Date of first publication November 28, 1913.

DON C. MCBRIDE, Administrator. Geo. H. Crosby, Jr., Attorney. adv-41 4t

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Notice of Sheriff's Sale of Personal Property

J. T. Owens, plaintiff, vs. The Gila Valley Copper Company, a corporation, defendant. Under and by virtue of an execution and order of sale, issued out of the Superior Court of the County of Graham, State of Arizona, on the 10th day of November, 1913, in the above entitled action, wherein J. T. Owens, the above-named plaintiff, obtained a judgment against the Gila Valley Copper Company, a corporation, the above-named defendant, on the 6th day of June, 1913, for the sum of Five Hundred and Eighty-four and 95/100 (\$584.95) dollars, being the amount of judgment, and Sixty-one and 32/100 (\$61.32) dollars, due as interest on said judgment, together with Sixty-four and 95/100 (\$64.95) dollars, being costs of suit, including clerk's and plaintiff's costs as provided by law, aggregating the total sum of Six Hundred and Forty-three and 11/100 (\$643.22) dollars, lawful money of the United States of America, besides all further costs and accruing costs and interest, I am commanded to sell the property particularly described as follows, to-wit:

Two rare, 66 feet of iron rails on tracks, 14 loose rails, two rolls 14-inch belting, one roll 12-inch belting, two rolls 8-inch belting, 150-ft. canvas hose, about 2,500 feet, two ore buckets, one 10 H.P. boiler and one 2-inch pump, two ore push carts, seven slag pots, all loose piping and pipe lines on property, five gasoline tanks, one iron water bucket, one 3/4-inch wire cable on spool, one 30-inch circular saw, one cross-cut saw, 20 single jack hammers, one barrel cup, one old drill jack, one pull-up battery, one range stove, two tables, two benches, one steam heat, 500 ft. wire cable on boat, one sinking pump, one store building, six dwelling houses, one blacksmith shop, one assay house, one complete assay outfit, scales, acids, furnace, boilers, crucibles, one building containing mill, two 60 H.P. boilers, one 75 H.P. engine, one 12 1/2 Blake crusher, one set of rolls, two Frommel screens, two four-compartment jigs, one Huntington mill, three 4 ft. Wulff tables, one Fray Vanner table, one steam air compressor, one liner drill, one Rand drill, and all connecting belting in building, situated on the mining claims of said defendant in the Lone Star Mining District, in Precinct No. 1, about 10 miles north of Safford, in Graham County, State of Arizona.

Public notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of December, A. D. 1913, between the hours of 9 o'clock a. m. and 5 o'clock p. m., at the mining claims of the above-named defendant, in the Lone Star Mining District, in Precinct No. 1, about 10 miles north of Safford, in Graham County, State of Arizona, I will in obedience to said order of sale, sell the above-described personal property, or much thereof as may be necessary to satisfy said judgment, accruing costs and penalties, to the highest and best bidder for cash lawful money of the United States of America.

Dated this 13th day of November, A. D. 1913.

By W. A. BENNETT, Deputy. 40-2t

First publication Nov. 7-5t

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Serial No. 0360

U. S. Land Office at Phoenix, Arizona, October 31, 1913.

Notice is hereby given that Lydia P. Hampton of Fairview, Arizona, who, on August 17, 1907, made desert land entry, No. 0590, for SW 1/4 SE 1/4, Section 14, Township 7 N., Range 21 E., & S. 1/4 Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make desert land proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before R. W. Smith, clerk of the Superior Court, at Solomonsville, Arizona, on the 9th day of December, 1913.

Claimant names as witnesses: C. Y. Webb, Joseph Webb, T. N. Lamb, L. J. Brown, all of Pima, Arizona.

THOMAS F. WEEDIN, Register.

First publication Nov. 7-5t

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Serial No. 03641

U. S. Land Office at Phoenix, Arizona, October 31, 1913.

Notice is hereby given that Rolla B. Wightman, of Geronimo, Arizona, who, on November 17, 1907, made homestead entry, No. 03541, for Lot 8, NW 1/4 NE 1/4, Sec. 25, Lots 1 & 2, Sec. 26, Township 14 N., Range 22 E., & S. 1/4 Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make five year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before R. W. Smith, clerk of the Superior Court, at Solomonsville, Arizona, on the 9th day of December, 1913.

Claimant names as witnesses: Hugh A. McBeth, Charles N. Rose, John Q. Saylor, Joseph H. Hinton, Sr., all of Geronimo, Arizona.

THOMAS F. WEEDIN, Register.

First publication Nov. 7-5t

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Serial No. 02263

U. S. Land Office at Phoenix, Arizona, October 31, 1913.

Notice is hereby given that Chas. Matthews, widow of David J. Matthews, of Fairview, Arizona, who, on October 1, 1908, made second homestead entry, No. 0634, for SW 1/4 SE 1/4, and on June 4, 1912, made additional homesteaded entry, No. 0635, for SW 1/4 SE 1/4, and on June 4, 1912, made additional homesteaded entry, No. 0636, for SW 1/4 SE 1/4, Range 24 E., & S. 1/4 Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make five year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before R. W. Smith, clerk of the Superior Court, at Solomonsville, Arizona, on the 9th day of December, 1913.

Claimant names as witnesses: Ephraim Larson, of Fairview, Arizona; George Matthews, of Fairview, Arizona; O. E. Barney, of Solomonsville, Arizona; Benjamin Blake, of Solomonsville, Arizona.

THOMAS F. WEEDIN, Register.

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HUSBAND RESCUED DESPAIRING WIFE

After Four Years of Discouraging Conditions, Mrs. Bullock Gave Up in Despair. Husband Came to Rescue.

Carson, Ky.—In an interesting letter from this place, Mrs. Bettie Bullock writes as follows: "I suffered for four years, with womanly troubles, and during this time, I could only sit up for a little while, and could not walk anywhere at all. At times, I would have severe pains in my left side.

The doctor was called in, and his treatment relieved me for a while, but I was soon confined to my bed again. After that, nothing seemed to do me any good. I had gotten so weak I could not stand, and I gave up in despair.